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INDEPENDENT IN ALL THINGS, NEUTRAL IN NONE.

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TWENTY-SIXTH YEAR, NO. 16.

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NOT FOR ROBERT

Sweitzer Will Tolerate No Levying of Assessments upon Public Employes in His Campaign for Mayor.

Spring Campaign Is Now Fully Under Way With Candidates for Every Place in the Running.

General Gossip from Municipal, County, State, Sanitary and Other Political Fields of Public Interest Up to Date.

What the Leaders in the Wards Are Doing for Their Country, for Themselves and for Their Friends.

Following Mr. Sweitzer's declaration in the Grand Pacific Hotel on Monday night that he would not permit the employees of the county clerk's office to be assessed for political purposes, nor would he permit it anywhere if he were elected Mayor, other public officials friendly to Mr. Sweitzer made similar announcements.

Henry Stuckart, County Treasurer and chairman of the Sweitzer campaign committee, was the first to follow the lead of his candidate.

"The people of Chicago already owe much to Mr. Sweitzer for his stand on 'slush funds,' because it will have the effect of preventing such funds being raised or even projected in future campaigns," said Mr. Stuckart. "I cannot be too emphatic in my declaration that there will be no assessment of the employees in my office. Any one of them who tries to raise money for political purposes will get into serious trouble."

Francis D. Connery, City Clerk and secretary of the Sweitzer campaign committee, said:

"There will be at least one office in the city hall in which there will be no assessment of employees for political purposes, and that is that of the City Clerk. If I hear of any attempt to raise a 'slush fund' I will file charges and bring the offenders before the Civil Service Commission."

Frank J. Walsh, Clerk of the Criminal Court; Denis J. Egan, Chief Clerk of the Election Commission; Thomas A. Smyth, president of the Sanitary District; John W. Rainey, Clerk of the Circuit Court; Joseph Connery, Recorder of Deeds, and others have taken the same stand.

Organizations for Robert M. Sweitzer, democratic candidate, were perfected in two wards Monday night. In the 28th ward at a meeting of the ward branch of the Illinois Women's Democratic League at 4450 North Lincoln street 300 women voted unanimously to endorse the candidacy of Mr. Sweitzer. Mrs. Joanna Downes, president, addressed the meeting and said that conditions which made Chicago unsafe for women had forced her to take a stand for Mr. Sweitzer and against the mayor. Mrs. Margaret Bauer was elected president and Mrs. Richard C. Callahan secretary.

While the Mayor talked "no hurry" Harrison leaders from every ward in the city began to gather at the Briggs House to map out a program for a solid backing for the Mayor in his race for the sixth term.

The Sweitzer adherents were not sleeping, either. Claims were made by the County Clerk's leaders that women in the Twenty-sixth were endorsing him. It was announced from the Sweitzer camp that a branch of the Illinois Women's Democratic League had voted their endorsement. A Sweitzer club was organized in the Nineteenth, and Rocco De Stefano was elected president.

In the 7th ward the progressive organization has launched a movement for nonpartisan candidates for the city and various aldermanic offices. A letter sent out by W. D. Cousin, the ward committeeman, says that a resolution to that effect has been adopted at a meeting where practically all of the eighty precincts were represented. A committee was named

to confer with Raymond M. Ashcraft, chairman of the Seventh ward nonpartisan committee.

Watchful waiting has been decreed by the Political Equality League on all Official Hon. Roosts. The Political Equality League of woman voters is going to keep watch on aldermen, sanitary district trustees and county commissioners. Mrs. A. H. Sweitzer is chairman of the bureau of civic efficiency, which is to keep watch on public legislators.

Chairman of committees who will direct attention to the various council bodies are as follows:

City council—Mrs. Page Waller Eaton. Local transportation—Mrs. Joseph Forbrich. Gas, oil and electric light—Mrs. W. H. Vesey. Harbors, bridges—Mrs. Sophia E. Delavan.

Local industries—Mrs. W. E. McDermot. Judiciary—Mrs. J. DeWitt Garrison. Streets and alleys—Mrs. James F. Gould.

License—Mrs. Laura E. Fischer. Buildings and city hall—Mrs. J. J. Vanleuven. Schools, fire, police and civil service—Mrs. Heloise Wynne.

Health—Mrs. William Hess. Railway terminals—Dr. Efra V. Davis.

Mrs. Willard McEwen is chairman of the committee on the board of county commissioners. Mrs. Charles Brackebush on the sanitary district trustees, and Mrs. Charles Nagely on the board of education. Each one of these has several "attending committees."

The attempt of the Trust Press to force property owners to clean its daily-newspaper-stand sidewalks, has failed.

A state law to provide for the cleaning of snow and ice from sidewalks was recommended to the city council Monday by Assistant Corporation Counsel Leon Hornstein. The opinion was referred to the permanent charter commission.

In giving his opinion Mr. Hornstein quoted many greatly varying decisions and expressed belief that the passage of ordinances would not bring about desired results.

The recommendation, in part, is as follows:

"We suggest that an effort be made to secure the passage of an act of the legislature which will provide for the cleaning of snow and ice from a path of limited width over walks that have been improved with permanent sidewalks in cities or villages of more than 60,000 population."

We notice that several fugitives from justice from other cities, now sojourning in Chicago, are writing letters to daily papers demanding that Chicago people clean the sidewalks for them "like they do in Detroit."

Reports in political circles are to the effect that Superior Court Judge William E. Dever will be put forward as a Mayoralty candidate by the Dunne wing of the Democratic party. It is believed by some leaders that the contest between Mayor Harrison and County Clerk Sweitzer will be

come so bitter that there will be a good chance for a third candidate. It is understood that Judge Dever is not disposed to enter the race.

Ex-Governor Deneen is said to be behind the candidacy of Judge Harry Olson for the Republican nomination for Mayor. While attempts were being made to bring Republicans and Progressives together on a fusion candidate, the candidacy of Judge Olson took tangible form with the appearance of banners bearing him for Mayor. Big triangular banners bearing the words "We like Olson for May-

or" were seen in various parts of the city.

There is no man in public life in Chicago who is more universally esteemed than John T. Connery. Public spirited and enterprising, he is the soul of personal and business honor and the great measure of success



JOHN T. CONNERY,
Popular Leader in Business and Political World.

or. Do you? appeared in various vacant office windows in the loop.

A committee of Republicans and Progressives has been formed for the purpose of uniting on a fusion candidate for Mayor. Alexander H. Revell is chairman of it.

"It is simply a group of fifteen or twenty citizens who are well enough known to assure that they have no personal axes to grind and are seeking to bring the two parties together on a candidate big enough and competent enough to be the chief executive

of a metropolis such as ours," said Alexander H. Revell. "We had not expected to make our activities public, since we are not in the thing for any personal glory and the public discussion of possible candidates in advance of any decision is embarrassing all around."

"We are holding meetings, however, and are in close touch with each other by telephone, so that we can get together at any time it seems advisable. We have conferred with representatives of both the Progressive and Republican parties, and there is prospect that matters will come to a head within the next few days. There seems to be a general disposition to get together."

"The matter is bound to simmer down to a question of candidates. Fifteen or twenty have been suggested, some of them seriously and others not."

Reports were in circulation that the names of Judge Theodore Brentano, Ald. Charles E. Merriam and Edward J. Brundage, former corporation counsel, had been passed by the progressive conferees as acceptable to them. It was also insisted that the deliberations were not finished and that more names are under consideration.

People would not stand for the old national guard armories on the lake front in Grant Park. They were removed. Why then, should a cavalry armory and barracks be erected in Lincoln Park?

The Mayoralty battle is getting hotter.

Third ward Thompson Republicans held a big meeting in the interest of their candidate at 543 East 43rd street. There were 300 present, divided about equally between men and women. Addresses were made by Mr. Thompson, Mrs. Page Waller Eaton, and James M. Pugh.

The "drys" are apparently not taxpayers or they would not be so willing to assume \$7,000,000 of taxes for the police, now paid by saloon licenses.

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WON'T WALK FOR IT

Harrison Declines Challenge of Candidate Geraghty to Settle Democrat Mayoralty Nomination by Walking Match.

General Political Gossip About the Mayoralty and the Other Places to be Filled Next Spring.

Latest Items of Interest from All the Camps About Candidates and Their Prospects in the Spring Election.

Mayoralty Fight Is Getting Hotter as the Time for Settling the Battle Draws Closer to Hand.

The mayoralty fight is getting hot and funny too. John J. Geraghty democratic candidate for mayor has followed up his challenge to Mayor Harrison for a walking match in aid of the poor by suggesting plans for the contest and extending his challenge to all of the other democratic candidates.

"I have already started training," said Mr. Geraghty, "as I anticipate that the mayor will accept my challenge. Why not? His statement as to his pedestrian ability in comparison with others virtually was a challenge in itself, and I assume the mayor is 'game.' I think the contest should be

citizens see the list of promises which he has been making six times in the last twenty years without the breath of life being put into any of them it will be the funniest story ever told."

Managers of William Hale Thompson's campaign feel so certain he will win the Republican nomination for Mayor they have taken a lease on their new headquarters in the Union Hotel building until April 15, which will be nine days following the April election.

Those in charge of William Hale Thompson's campaign declare that his name will not be permitted to go before the republican county central committee for endorsement or any other action. They declare that he will make an independent fight before the voters at the primaries regardless of the success or failure of any fusion efforts.

Supporters of the boom of Congressman Martin B. Madden were reported as being impatient at the slowness of the negotiations with the progressives and ready to demand that the republican organization take action. Congressman Madden has insisted that he will not run unless all elements in the republican organization unite in their support of him.

With the opening of headquarters for William Hale Thompson in every ward in the city this week the Thompson campaign for the republican mayoral nomination gained a momentum which friends of Mr. Thompson declared assures a personal organization of greater strength than any other candidate can hope to build up in the remaining six weeks of the primary campaign.

Third ward Thompson headquarters were opened at 543 East Forty-third street. Two headquarters will be established in the Sixth ward, one on the East and one on the west side of the ward.

Indorsements of the Thompson candidacy was given Sunday by the Twelfth Ward Regular Republican club. Thirty-eight out of the forty precinct committeemen were present and the action was unanimous.

Mrs. William Hale Thompson has joined the ranks of the active campaigners in her husband's behalf and, in addition to addressing a number of women's meetings in various parts of the city, is giving a series of Tuesday afternoon teas for workers and others interested in the campaign at the Thompson residence, 3200 Sheridan road.

Mayor Carter H. Harrison will begin his big campaign speaking tour in February, the executive announced. "We will unlimber the big guns then," said Mayor Harrison. "I won't do very much speaking until then. There's no hurry, you see. Plenty of time."

John F. Smulski, vice president of the Local Division of the Chicago Association of Commerce, has issued a beautifully printed, comprehensive and interesting report in favor of building The Town Hall of the Nation on the new city pier on the North Side. This would be the largest convention building in the world. It could be used for

grand opera and for every other purpose of the public assemblage. It would draw millions of visitors to Chicago. Mr. Smulski and his associates deserve credit for this great plan which the city should carry out.

The proposed building would seat 31,641 persons and have about 190,000 square feet of floor space. A bond issue to meet the estimated cost of \$1,250,000 is proposed. It is contended that the building would return an annual profit of \$70,000.

The City Council transacted the following business at its last meeting on Monday Night:

Concurred in Mayor Harrison's appointment of former Alderman Joseph L. Novak as a member of the board of local improvements, to succeed Clayton F. Smith.

Received an opinion from the law department that frontage consents are not required where the city wishes to build dispensaries for the municipal tuberculosis sanitarium.

Got an opinion from the law department that annexation to Chicago of Germania, lying between Evanston and the north limits of the city, would be legal.

Adopted resolutions deploring the death of Frank W. Solon, former superintendent of streets.

Set Jan. 23 and 24 for "tag day" for Polish victims of European war.

Started a move to establish residential and industrial zones.

Sent to the license committee an order from Alderman Michaelson asking for an ordinance to license coffee-houses. Seeks to charge \$500 annual fee and to have the places close at 1 o'clock in the morning.

Sent to the finance committee an order from Alderman Merriam directing it to investigate the economies possible by consolidation or co-operation of various local governing bodies.

Passed an order directing that property owners in the territory bounded by Lake Michigan, Halsted street, Twenty-second street and North avenue be notified to remove sidewalk obstructions before June 1, 1917.

Received weekly crime report from Chief of Police Gleason. Showed that during the past week eighty-one robberies were reported and that citizens lost \$2,418.

Passed an ordinance changing titles of first-class detective sergeants to "senior detective sergeants" and second-class detective sergeants to "detective sergeants."

W. C. Lamb, who was Progressive candidate for Clerk of the Municipal Court, has been elected president of the Twenty-first Ward Thompson Club. The Progressive Thompson Club in the Second ward has elected Fred Edwards president. One of its members is F. E. J. Lloyd, Progressive member of the last general assembly.

If it were not for the "smoke nuisance" of the railroads, Chicago would still be a dot on the prairie. Beat the electrification scheme.

The men behind the automatic gas shut-off graft are again at work boosting their scheme.

The drys want a fight in Chicago in 1915. They can have it.